

In the claims

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium having instructions for performing acts comprising:

- authenticating a computer attempting to log onto a systems interface to legacy systems;

- providing access to the systems interface, the systems interface corresponding to at least one network address and including a protocol server that manages protocol with the computer and a transaction server in direct communication with the legacy systems;

- sending a GUI to the computer, wherein the GUI provides a user of the computer an option to request access to an intranet that is distinct from the legacy systems;

- receiving and processing at the systems interface the request for access to the intranet;

- sending a message to the computer, the message causing the computer to launch a software application that seeks out a separate network address on the intranet; and

- directing communications from the computer from the systems interface to the separate network address by the protocol server bypassing the transaction server by directing the communications from the computer directly to the intranet; and

- communicating with both the at least one network address and the separate network address such that communication with the legacy systems and the intranet is maintained concurrently.

24-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the option to exercise the request is based on user selection of an icon or a software button.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the message comprises an application program interface command and wherein the software application is a browser.

28. (Previously Presented) A system for permitting a user to access data by employing a computer to access information from legacy systems, wherein the computer is running application-specific client software to access the information from legacy systems, the system comprising:

a systems interface to the legacy systems, the systems interface including a protocol server and a transaction server, the protocol server having a first network address and the transaction server having a separate network address,

wherein the protocol server transmits a GUI to the computer over a network and which displays a first window incorporating one of an icon and a software button that can be engaged to initiate a request for access to an intranet;

wherein the transaction server issues at least one message over the network in response to the request, the at least one message causing the computer to launch a browser application as a second window and the at least one message causing communications from the computer to be directed from the first network address to a third network address corresponding to the intranet that is distinct from the legacy systems by the protocol server bypassing the transaction server and directing the communications from the computer directly to the intranet, wherein communication with both the first network address and the third network address is maintained concurrently.

29-31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 wherein a legacy system is at least one of a loop facility assignment control system, a computer system for main frame operations, a mechanized time reporting system and a work activity statistical sampling system.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, wherein a legacy system is at least one of a loop facility assignment control system, a computer system for main frame operations, a mechanized time reporting system and a work activity statistical sampling system.